



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 032590-071

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Masahito Tomizawa, et al.) Group Art Unit: 2664
Application No.: 09/664,001) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: September 18, 2000)
For: TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND)
TRANSPORT METHOD)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

PCT Publication No. 99/41863 dated August 19, 1999
Japanese Publication No. 10-200495 dated July 3, 1998
Japanese Publication No. 2000-041024 dated February 8, 2000

The being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application. Since being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

I, the undersigned, hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than 30 (thirty) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

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This Information Disclosure Statement contains information which is not in the English language, however, an English language abstract is attached for these documents. These documents were cited in a Japanese office action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and is not in English, however, a letter from our client instructing us to file the Information Disclosure Statement before June 12, 2003 is also attached. We will request a translation of the relevant portions of the Japanese Office Action and forward it to the Examiner by way of Communication once it is received.

By citing the above references, Applicants do not acquiesce or admit that any of these documents are "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. Applicants specifically reserve the right, where appropriate, to antedate any of the cited documents by an appropriate showing under 37 C.F.R. §1.131, §1.604, §1.608 or any other suitable means.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

GFS
Date: June 10, 2003

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